

ABSOLUTE RATING: Good

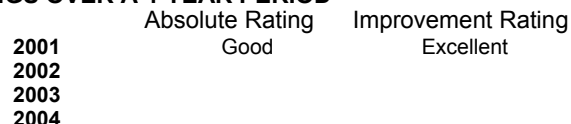
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Excellent

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 111.

The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from unsatisfactory to excellent.

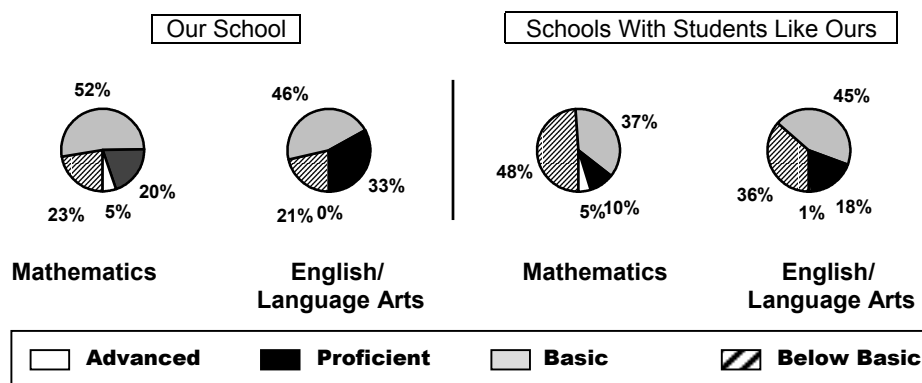
For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
All students (n=221)	78.7	77.4	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=14)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=206)	80.1	77.2		
Gender				
Male (n=92)	78.3	78.5		
Female (n=128)	79.7	76.6		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=213)	79.3	76.6		
Hispanic (n=1)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=6)	N/A	N/A		
Other (n=N/A)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=196)	79.1	77.7		
Pay for lunch (n=24)	N/A	N/A		

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Dollars spent per student	\$5,424	N/A	\$5,856	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	91.1%	Down from 91.2%	89.5%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.9 to 1	N/A	17.1 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=556)				
• Attendance Rate	96.6%	Down from 97%	96.1%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	5%	N/A	7%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	5%	N/A	6%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	100%	Up from 99.1%	98%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	3.8%	Up from 2.9%	5.8%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=39)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	7.3 Days	Up from 6.9	7.5 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	95.6%	Up from 95.2%	95%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	64.1%	Up from 61.5%	43.6%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	79.5%	Down from 84.6%	77.5%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	0%	No change	2.9%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	89.5%	Down from 91.9%	81.4%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$39,662	Up 3.3%	\$36,138	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
SCHOOL				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	66.6%	N/A	64.9%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	4	N/A	4	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	99%	N/A	88.3%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
• On academic plans	N/A	N/A	63.5%	43.1%
• On academic probation	N/A	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	0.2%	Down from 0.4%	2.1%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	39	N/A	2	1
• Gifted and talented	4.8%	Up from 2.9%	5.3%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	4.6%	Up from 1.3%	8.9%	8.4%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

The mission of Whittaker Elementary School is to ensure that all students are effective learners by providing enriching experiences in a safe and nurturing environment. To accomplish our mission, we have adopted the following goals.

Our first goal is to improve student performance in English/language arts and mathematics. Approximately 32 percent of our third and fourth graders scored Basic or above on the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT) in reading; 48% scored Basic or above in math. We are striving to become an exemplary writing school. In their lesson plans, teachers integrate English/language arts and mathematics across the curriculum. They focus on the standards in their long-range plans and utilize monthly standards-based pacing charts in reading and math.

Our second goal is to integrate technology and learning. We have begun to implement Netschools.com, an individualized internet-based instructional program designed to improve student achievement. This program also will allow teachers to publish lesson plans. Students use technology as they participate in Accelerated Reading and Accelerated Math programs. Career awareness activities expose students to the use of technology in the workplace.

Our third goal is to implement a character education program, which will give students the necessary skills to make appropriate decisions. We have developed the Whittaker Wildcat Pledge that highlights positive character traits. During morning announcements, a story exemplifying a character word is read. The guidance counselor also teaches character words and appropriate behavior during regular guidance sessions. We have implemented service learning projects in kindergarten through fourth grade. These projects enable students to develop reading and writing skills through monthly service projects. Topics include Book Lovers' Month, Military Mail-In, Children's Book Week, Letter Writing Month, Letters of Appreciation, National Poetry Month, and National Postcard Month.

At Whittaker Elementary School, parental involvement and community participation are keys to our students' success. We welcome your input.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	Forms	Forms	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	lost by	lost by	
Satisfied with home-school relations	shipper.	shipper.	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

3805040

Whittaker Elementary
790 Whittaker Parkway
Orangeburg, SC 29115

Grades K-4 Elementary School

Enrollment: 556 Students

Principal

Dr. Bettie W. Hicks 803-534-6559

Superintendent

Mr. Melvin Smoak 803-534-5454

Board Chair

Mr. Melvin Crum 803-536-6693

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Excellent



South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myschools.com